

TRI-WEEKLY ASTORIAN.

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THE ASTORIAN.

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D. C. IRELAND, Proprietor

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Agents.
L. P. FISHER, 23 and 21 New Merchants Exchange, is authorized to act as Agent for the ASTORIAN in San Francisco.
Any friend who feels an interest in the prosperity of this region, is authorized to act as Agent for this paper, in procuring subscribers.

CITY INTELLIGENCE.

—The Globe Oyster Saloon is now ready for business. See Mr. Koe-foed's card in another column.

—It is said Ben Holladay has purchased the schooner Hera, to ply between San Francisco and Portland.

—The schooner Rough and Ready, Capt. Rehfield, arrived from Chinook Thursday with all the Salmon in barrels she could carry.

—The Silver and Copper-tipped shoes for children, about which so much has been said, have arrived at Van Dusen's and Cases'. They are a great saving.

—Parties in want of teaming are referred to the advertisement of J. Wm. Welch in another column to-day. During his absence to the State Fair Mr. Gearhart will attend to business for him.

—T. Chapman, J. C. Mealy and J. Kemp of Astoria were booked at the Occidental, Portland, on the 30th. Since Major Cook and W. H. Andrus have taken charge of the Occidental it is a favorite stopping place.

—The Astoria Social Literary Society gave a ball at Spiritual Hall last Wednesday evening. Messrs. Farleman & Lawson gave the supper, and parties who attended report themselves very highly pleased.

—People affect to deride Spiritualism, many of whom themselves have dealings with a familiar spirit. This is the spirit known in many circles as "Old Tom," who usually under that name communicates by taps.

—Mr. J. Wm. Welch of this city, leaves to-day for the Wallamet valley to be in attendance at the State Fair. Mr. Welch will act as agent for the ASTORIAN, and any farmer, or other person who desires to keep posted, regarding movements now being made for the better shipment of grain from Oregon, can certainly afford to take this paper.

—The first five readers, and the speller of the Pacific Coast series, with Hopkins' Manna of American Ideas have been adopted as the text books in reading and spelling for the State of Oregon during the next four years, commencing October 1st, 1873. If purchased immediately these books can be had at reduced rates. They will be introduced at 33 1/2 per cent. less than the price after three months. Let all parents and guardians improve this offer.

—Astoria will be well represented at the State Fair, and corner stone laying at the Capital next week. Col. James Taylor and A. S. Mercer, if in the valley, will be there. Mr. Shuster has gone and will photograph it—bringing copies with him. To-day Mr. Morrison of Clatsop, Van Dusen of Astoria, and others, will start. We hope our friends will all recollect the ASTORIAN, and that each will return with a good list of subscribers, as a reward for our remaining in the office attending to business while they swing around the circle.

—Capt. Grenville Reed has removed and re-opened his market at the old stand on Chenamus street. See advertisement.

—I. W. Case has the patent broom strengthener, and national yeast cake for sale. Two articles in demand with housekeepers.

—Capt. Flavel's new pile driver commenced repairing the new wharf where it was knocked to pieces by the Ajax coming in Sunday evening.

—H. B. Parker opened a new stock of whiskies last Wednesday that he has had on hand for over a year. It is pronounced by judges an A. No. 1 article.

—Work of pile driving for the Astoria Farmer's Warehouse is progressing as fast as possible, but the bottom is so hard that piles may have to be shod.

—It is high time some measures were adopted to bring water into Astoria for domestic uses. The wells of the city, and even the springs, are rapidly giving out, and until wet weather comes the supply will be short.

—Petrified blocks of fir wood, bark, etc., were plentifully found on block 112, Olney's Astoria, by Mr. E. P. Parker this week. Some of it has the true metallic ring, and at the same time all appearances resembles only wood or bark, the original substance.

—Lot two, block forty-four, sold at Sheriff sale last Wednesday, was bid in by H. B. Parker at \$1,400 coin. There are some substantial improvements on the lot, and the purchaser is understood to have made a bargain at the price paid.

—Mr. Job Ross' feline Thomas H. Pussey cat, which lived in Astoria for nineteen years, and had become a great favorite in his family, died on Monday. Numerous are the sons and daughters and grandchildren who will cherish recollections of Old Tom. *Requiescat in pace.*

—Mr. H. J. Stevenson, of Portland, has entered upon a contract to make and plat a full and complete survey of the harbor of Astoria for use of the Common Council. This survey will embrace everything required to give a perfect knowledge of the harbor, as to depth of water, frontage for wharf improvements, etc. The work has been under way for several days past.

—A writer in the Bulletin who knew Mrs. Ben Holladay pays a merited tribute to the memory of the dead in a sketch of her virtues, her goodness, and almost faultless excellence. Mr. Holladay had arranged for her to accompany him on his return from the East next Spring to Oregon, to pass the Summer together at the charming seaside retreat at Clatsop, near Tillamook Head, and he looked forward with intense gladness to that happy time when they could again together dwell, she freed from the immediate cares of her children, and he enabled to enjoy vacation from his vast business interests, in the enjoyment of home and each other's society. But obdurate Fate has decreed this happy desire of his never shall be realized.

NEW SCHOOL BOOKS.—I have just received all the different kinds of New School Books required to be used in this State, that can now be found in San Francisco. Also, Slate pencils, Blotting pads, a good assortment of Stationery, Drawing paper, CARD BOARD, Perforated board, Ink, (Caroline, Purple and Black). Likewise a new stock of Crockery, Clocks and a large assortment of Lamp Chimneys, all of which will be sold cheap for cash.

I. W. CASE.

LETTER FROM A FARMER.

The Agriculturists Waking up to a Realizing Sense of the Situation

ALBANY, Sept. 27, 1873.

EDITOR ASTORIAN:
As your local interests are becoming more and more identified with the productive industries of the interior, I presume that a few words of description of the fair which to-day closes at this point will arrest the attention of your readers.

The Fair as an exhibit of the industries of this county may emphatically be pronounced a failure. The attendance so far as numbers make a fair a financial success, may be said to be no less a failure.

I would not be understood that articles, or animals here on exhibition, were not of a quality equal to the best that can be shown of their several kinds, or that the visitors who did attend were not such as would grace any gathering of the kind with their presence. In both cases the quality was good—the lack being in quantity only. The reason for this failure is also a good one, and that makes it less lamentable.

A most bountiful harvest, even in a district of uniform good harvests, is a subject of congratulation under almost any circumstance, and as such, the most of the people I meet here accept it as good reason for the slightness of the exhibit, and paucity of visitors, at this fair.

The weather is clear and beautiful, and consequently the roads are dusty, and worn into holes in places by the constant passage of heavy laden wagons, bearing the rich crop to the various shipping points of the county. It is estimated this county will have a million of bushels of wheat for shipment, and I think the estimate will very likely fall below the actuality.

I see Col. James Taylor and Mr. A. S. Mercer, of Astoria, are here, and I notice that wherever they stop on the grounds a few minutes the subject of the 'getting of grain to market easily and cheaply is almost sure to become the topic of conversation, and the reason is obvious, for the few farmers who have got their crops threshed, and hauled to the most convenient depot or warehouses, are not more convinced that they haul fifty bushels to market under present weather and over dry roads, easier than they can haul twenty bushels under heavy rains and through deep mud, than they are that still another point of economy in moving their produce would be gained by conveying grain at one movement from their local gathering points to deep water navigation for final shipment. Consequently, those who have finished hauling, those who are busy hauling, and those who have not yet got through threshing, are all alike impressed with the fact that as it is bad economy to haul half loads over deep mud so it must be just as bad to continue to float one-third or one-half loads over shallow river beds, making unnecessary stoppages by the way, as we have been doing, in the mode of moving our crops. Perceiving this, it is not strange that around the camp fires on these fair grounds at the threshing floor, at the warehouse, or at the Grange meeting, the improvement of our roads and rivers for the most economical movement of produce is one of the most serious subjects of discussion—and the subject is viewed with that degree of earnestness as to make it safe to prophesy that the Statesman or Commercialist who will not discern this as a sign of "coming events" had better close his "record" or balance his ledger, (as the case may be), while the record may be closed with honor, or the ledger balanced with credit, as I am persuaded that the near future will inaugurate a movement that will not cease until all obstructions to the industrial interests of the valley of the Columbia (whether of men or things) is removed that can be removed by just perception and reasonable, honest effort.

I have wandered a little from the fair, but will close by giving you the fact that it is the general impression here that great numbers who are too busy to attend their own county fair will be ready for rest and relaxation by the commencement of the State Fair and will attend that.

JOHN MINTO.

—The political fight continues unabated in the valley towns. Happy we of Clatsop, who are not bored by the painful slanders made use of, as a substitute for arguments, in this malicious raid for the spoils of office.

TELEGRAPH DISPATCHES.

The Price of Gold.

PORTLAND, Oct. 3d.—Gold in New York to-day, 112 1/2; Portland Legal Tender rates,—87 1/2 buying, and 88 1/2 selling.

—A telegram from Boston, Sept 29th says Admiral Winslow, U. S. N., who commanded the Kearsage when she sunk the Alabama, died at his residence, at Boston Highlands, that evening.

—It is currently reported that Benicia will be made a permanent military depot. If true, it will make a large difference in the general activity of the town. An arsenal and new officers quarters are being constructed at an expense of \$60,000.

—There being no American war vessel at Honolulu at present, and the Kearsarge not being ready for sea, the Saranac will be dispatched. It is stated also that the British gunboat Tenedos will sail for the same destination.

New York Sept. 29.—A Washington dispatch says an officer of the United States Navy, lately attached to the Asiatic Squadron, arrived yesterday from Yokohama, Japan. He makes the announcement that an English company have completed arrangements and will at an early date establish a line of steamers to run opposition to the Pacific Mail Steamship Company's line, between San Francisco, China and Japan. They promise to make the run between the ports in seventeen days, thus making a saving of time of between five and six days.

SHREVEPORT, La., Sept. 29.—Within the last four days several of the most prominent and respectable citizens of Shreveport have fallen victims to the epidemic. The population has been fearfully thinned out by sickness and death. We have no longer single funerals. A hearse followed by one or two carriages dashes through the street like a section of artillery in battle seeking a position; then a few more bodies are drummed up, shoved in the hearse, and the collection is driven rapidly to the cemetery. This is the case even with the most prominent citizens. The Howard Association have opened an orphan asylum and are feeding about two-thirds of the resident population. There are fewer deaths and new cases, because there are fewer people.

Post Office Notice.

The General Delivery at the Astoria Postoffice will be open daily, (except Sundays), from 8 o'clock A. M. until 7 P. M. On Sundays from 1 to 2 o'clock P. M.

Money Orders issued from 8 A. M. to 4 P. M.

MAILS CLOSE:

For Portland and intermediate offices, at 5 o'clock A. M. daily.

For Skipanon, Seaside house, and Tillamook, daily on arrival of the mail from Portland.

For Fort Stevens and Cape Disappointment, Unity, Oysterville, and Olympia—Tuesdays and Thursdays, at 7:30 A. M.

For Knappton, Grays river, Klaskanine, Youngs river, Lewis and Clarke, Nehalem valley, etc., irregular.

Temple Lodge No. 7—A. F. & A. M.

Regular Communications first and third Saturdays in each month, at 7 o'clock P. M., at the Hall in Astoria. Members of the Order in good standing are invited to attend. By order of the W. M.

Beaver Lodge No. 35, I. O. O. F.

Meet every Thursday evening, at 7 1/2 o'clock, in the Odd Fellow's Hall, corner of Cass and Jefferson streets, Astoria. Members of the Order are invited to attend. By order, N. G.

Church Notices.

Grace Church, (Prot. Episcopal) Rev. T. A. Hyland Rector. Divine services every Sunday at 10 1/2 A. M. and 7 P. M.; Sunday School at 1 P. M.
Congregational Church, Rev. A. W. Tenney Pastor. Divine services every Sunday at 10 1/2 A. M. and 7 P. M.; Prayer Meeting every Thursday evening, Sunday School meets at 12 M.

MISCELLANEOUS ITEMS.

—Work of completing the Northern Pacific Railroad to Tacoma has been ordered.

—When Adam and Eve partook of the tree of knowledge, did they study the higher branches?

—A scapegrace remarked that the principal branch of education in his school was a willow branch.

—Mrs. Snidkins says her husband is a three-handed man—right hand, left hand, and behind hand.

—Chloroform will remove paint from a garment or elsewhere, when benzol or bisulphide of carbon fails.

You can tin articles of iron by first dipping them into dilute vitriol to clean their surfaces and then into a bath of melted tin.

—The man who said two porcupines make one prickly pair, is a knight of the quill, and not a professor of the high mathematics.

—Stephen Pearl Andrews states clearly enough that "the absolutoid and abstractoid Elementism of Being echoes or reappears by analogy within the relatoid and concretoid elaborism." We really don't know whether to agree with him or not.

—Every person should be acquainted with the organization, structure, and functions of his own body—the house in which he lives; he should know the conditions of health, and the causes of the numerous diseases that flesh is heir to, in order to avoid them, prolonging his life, and multiply his means of usefulness. If these things are not otherwise learned, they should be taught—the elements of them at least—in our primary schools.

—Orton says that no familiarity with earthquakes enables one to laugh during the shock, or even at the subterranean thunders, which sound like the clanking of chains in the realm of Pluto. All animal nature is terror-stricken. The horse trembles in his stall. The cow moans a low, melancholy tune. The dog sends forth an unearthly howl. Sparrows drop from the trees as if dead. Crocodiles leave the trembling bed of the river, and run with loud cries into the forest. "A moment," says Humboldt, "destroys the illusion of a whole life." We realize an utter insignificance in the presence of that mysterious Power that guides the forces of Nature.

—The Chicago Inter-Ocean says: "The agriculturists number almost half of all the persons engaged in industrial pursuits in the United States. It is safe to say that they do not occupy one-tenth of the offices. As a general thing they do not occupy them because they do not want or seek such positions; but now let them come or be brought to the front. One of the greatest evils afflicting the country is the growing prodigality of the people, both in private and public life. The farmers have well nigh escaped this demoralization. They are frugal and economical in their own expenditures and it is fair to presume will be no less careful of the money of the public. We have before referred to that fact that they have not interested themselves in the primary work of the party politics to the extent desired. Let them look to this now. The honor, the perpetuity, and the success of a Republican organization is largely in their hands. They should see to it that it does not fail in any mission because of their indifference, and that unworthy men are not chosen to fill important public stations through their carelessness."